

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 783

AN ACT

To amend title III of the Immigration and Nationality Act to make changes in the laws relating to nationality and naturalization.

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To amend title III of the Immigration and Nationality Act to make changes in the laws relating to nationality and naturalization.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Nationality and Natu-
5 ralization Amendments of 1993”.

6 **SEC. 2. EQUAL TREATMENT OF WOMEN IN CONFERRING**
7 **CITIZENSHIP FOR CHILDREN BORN ABROAD.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 301 of the Immigration
9 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1401) is amended—

1 (1) by striking the period at the end of para-
2 graph (g) and inserting “; and”, and

3 (2) by adding at the end the following new
4 paragraph:

5 “(h) a person born before noon (Eastern Stand-
6 ard Time) May 24, 1934, outside the limits and ju-
7 risdiction of the United States of an alien father and
8 a mother who is a citizen of the United States who,
9 prior to the birth of such person, had resided in the
10 United States.”.

11 (b) WAIVER OF RETENTION REQUIREMENTS.—Any
12 provision of law (including section 301(b) of the Immigra-
13 tion and Nationality Act (as in effect before October 10,
14 1978), and the provisos of section 201(g) of the National-
15 ity Act of 1940) that provided for a person’s loss of citi-
16 zenship or nationality if the person failed to come to, or
17 reside or be physically present in, the United States shall
18 not apply in the case of a person claiming United States
19 citizenship based on such person’s descent from an indi-
20 vidual described in section 301(h) of the Immigration and
21 Nationality Act (as added by subsection (a)).

22 (c) RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.—The immigration
23 and nationality laws of the United States shall be applied
24 (to persons born before, on, or after the date of the enact-
25 ment of this Act) as though such amendment and such

1 subsection had been in effect as of the date of their birth.
2 However, the retroactive application of the amendment
3 and provision shall not affect the validity of citizenship
4 of anyone who has obtained citizenship under section 1993
5 of the Revised Statutes (as in effect before the enactment
6 of the Act of May 24, 1934, 48 Stat. 797).

7 **SEC. 3. EXPANDING WAIVER OF THE GOVERNMENT KNOWL-**
8 **EDGE, UNITED STATES HISTORY, AND ENG-**
9 **LISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR NATU-**
10 **RALIZATION.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 312 of the Immigration
12 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1423) is amended—

13 (1) by inserting “(a)” after “312.”,

14 (2) by striking “this requirement” and all that
15 follows through “That” the second place it appears,

16 (3) by striking “this section” and inserting
17 “this paragraph”, and

18 (4) by adding at the end the following new sub-
19 section:

20 “(b)(1) The requirements of subsection (a) shall not
21 apply to any person who is unable because of physical or
22 developmental disability or mental impairment to comply
23 therewith.

24 “(2) The requirement of subsection (a)(1) shall not
25 apply to any person who, on the date of the filing of the

1 person's application for naturalization as provided in sec-
2 tion 334, either—

3 “(A) is over fifty years of age and has been liv-
4 ing in the United States for periods totalling at least
5 twenty years subsequent to a lawful admission for
6 permanent residence, or

7 “(B) is over fifty-five years of age and has been
8 living in the United States for periods totaling at
9 least fifteen years subsequent to a lawful admission
10 for permanent residence.

11 “(3) The requirement of subsection (a)(2) shall not
12 apply to any person who, on the date of the filing of the
13 person's application for naturalization as provided in sec-
14 tion 334, is over sixty-five years of age and has been living
15 in the United States for periods totaling at least twenty
16 years subsequent to a lawful admission for permanent res-
17 idence.”.

18 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section
19 245A(b)(1)(D) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a(b)(1)(D)) is
20 amended by striking “312” each place it appears and in-
21 serting “312(a)”.

22 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
23 subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enact-
24 ment of this Act and shall apply to applications for natu-

1 ralization filed on or after such date and to such applica-
2 tions pending on such date.

3 **SEC. 4. NATURALIZATION OF CHILDREN ON APPLICATION**
4 **OF CITIZEN PARENT.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 322 of the Immigration
6 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1433) is amended to read
7 as follows:

8 “CHILD BORN OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES; APPLICA-
9 TION FOR CERTIFICATE OF CITIZENSHIP REQUIRE-
10 MENTS

11 “SEC. 322. (a) A parent who is a citizen of the
12 United States may apply to the Attorney General for a
13 certificate of citizenship on behalf of a child born outside
14 the United States. The Attorney General shall issue such
15 a certificate of citizenship upon proof to the satisfaction
16 of the Attorney General that the following conditions have
17 been fulfilled:

18 “(1) At least one parent is a citizen of the
19 United States, whether by birth or naturalization.

20 “(2) The child is physically present in the
21 United States pursuant to a lawful admission.

22 “(3) The child is under the age of 18 years and
23 in the legal custody of the citizen parent.

24 “(4) If the citizen parent is an adoptive parent
25 of the child, the child was adopted by the parent be-
26 fore the child reached the age of 16 years and the

1 child meets the requirements for being a child under
2 subparagraph (E) or (F) of section 101(b)(1).

3 “(5) If the citizen parent has not been phys-
4 ically present in the United States or its outlying
5 possessions for a period or periods totalling not less
6 than five years, at least two of which were after
7 attaining the age of fourteen years—

8 “(A) the child is residing permanently in
9 the United States with the citizen parent, pur-
10 suant to a lawful admission for permanent resi-
11 dence, or

12 “(B) a citizen parent of the citizen parent
13 has been physically present in the United States
14 or its outlying possessions for a period or peri-
15 ods totaling not less than five years, at least
16 two of which were after attaining the age of
17 fourteen years.

18 “(b) Upon approval of the application (which may be
19 filed abroad) and, except as provided in the last sentence
20 of section 337(a), upon taking and subscribing before an
21 officer of the Service within the United States to the oath
22 of allegiance required by this Act of an applicant for natu-
23 ralization, the child shall become a citizen of the United
24 States and shall be furnished by the Attorney General with
25 a certificate of citizenship.

1 “(c) Subsection (a) of this section shall apply to the
 2 adopted child of a United States citizen adoptive parent
 3 if the conditions specified in such subsection have been
 4 fulfilled.”.

5 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (c) of
 6 section 341 of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1452) is repealed.

7 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The item in the table
 8 of contents of such Act relating to section 322 is amended
 9 to read as follows:

“Sec. 322. Child born outside the United States; application for certificate of
 citizenship requirements.”.

10 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 11 this section shall take effect on the first day of the first
 12 month beginning more than one hundred twenty days
 13 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

14 **SEC. 5. FORMER CITIZENS OF UNITED STATES REGAINING**
 15 **UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 324 of the Immigration
 17 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1435) is amended by add-
 18 ing at the end the following new subsection:

19 “(d)(1) A person who was a citizen of the United
 20 States at birth and lost such citizenship for failure to meet
 21 the physical presence retention requirements under section
 22 301(b) (as in effect before October 10, 1978), shall, from
 23 and after taking the oath of allegiance required by section
 24 337 be a citizen of the United States and have the status

1 of a citizen of the United States by birth, without filing
2 an application for naturalization, and notwithstanding any
3 of the other provisions of this title except the provisions
4 of section 313. Nothing in this subsection or any other
5 provision of law shall be construed as conferring United
6 States citizenship retroactively upon such person during
7 any period in which such person was not a citizen.

8 “(2) The provisions of paragraphs (2) and (3) of sub-
9 section (c) shall apply to a person regaining citizenship
10 under paragraph (1) in the same manner as they apply
11 under subsection (c)(1).”.

12 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
13 subsection (a) shall take effect on the first day of the first
14 month beginning more than one hundred twenty days
15 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

16 **SEC. 6. REPORT ON CITIZENSHIP OF CERTAIN LEGALIZED**
17 **ALIENS.**

18 Not later than June 30, 1996, the Commissioner of
19 the Immigration and Naturalization Service shall prepare
20 and submit to the Congress a report concerning the citi-
21 zenship status of aliens legalized under section 245A and
22 section 210 of the Immigration and Nationality Act. Such
23 report shall include the following information by district
24 office for each national origin group:

1 (1) The number of applications for citizenship
2 filed.

3 (2) The number of applications approved.

4 (3) The number of applications denied.

5 (4) The number of applications pending.

Passed the House of Representatives November 20,
1993.

Attest:

Clerk.